

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 JERUSA 01403 181514Z
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 NEAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 HA-05 ACDA-12 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SSM-03
/099 W

-----018735 181515Z /53

P 181430Z MAY 78
FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0968
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L JERUSALEM 1403

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PBOR, IS, JO
SUBJECT: POSSIBLE NEW ISRAELI SETTLEMENT SOUTH OF BETHLEHEM

1. THE GOI HAS APPARENTLY BEGUN WORK ON A NEW SETTLEMENT
IN THE VICINITY OF SOLOMON'S POOLS ABOUT FIVE KILOMETERS
SOUTH OF BETHELEHEM. CONGEN OFFICER ON MAY 17 OBSERVED
GROUND BEING PREPARED BY HEAVY EQUIPMENT JUST NORTH OF
THE ROAD WHICH LINKS THE POOLS WITH THE ARAB VILLAGE
OF ARTAS ABOUT MIDWAY BETWEEN THOSE TWO POINTS.
(APPROXIMATELY 31 42 N. 35 11 E.) (2-TPC/K 737S 3053 III/
065082).

2. OFFICER DID NOT INQUIRE WITH WORKERS ON THE SITE,
BUT LATER ASKED MAYOR OF BETHLEHEM IF HE KNEW OF WORK
IN THAT AREA. MAYOR'S SON MAY 18 CONFIRMED MAYOR'S
UNDERSTANDING THAT ISRAELI SETTLEMENT IS TO BE LOCATED
ON THE SITE.

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3. DEPARTMENT HAS NO DOUBT SEEN AP STORY ON
TAMIR-WEIZMAN PLAN TO ESTABLISH SIX URBAN SETTLEMENTS
ON WEST BANK. FIVE SITES ARE NAMED:

(A) QARNEI SHOMRON (20,000 FAMILIES),
(B) HARIS (14,000),

(C) NABI SALIH (2,000),
(D) MA'ALE ADUMIM (7,000), AND
(E) EFRAT (8,000).

FINAL SITE IS IDENTIFIED AS BEING JUST SOUTH OF BETHLEHEM.
IT IS THE ONLY SITE MENTIONED WHERE THERE HAS BEEN NO
ISRAELI PRESENCE UNTIL NOW. (LA TIMES CORRESPONDENT
HAS IDENTIFIED SIXTH SETTLEMENT AS GIVON.)

4. COMMENT. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT WORK NEAR SOLOMON'S
POOLS IS AN ISRAELI FOOTHOLD FOR THE PLANNED DEVELOPMENT
OF EFRAT.
NEWLIN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: LAND SETTLEMENT, ALLEGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
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TAGS: PBOR, IS, JO
To: STATE
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